

Tail quadrangular, with sharp edges, and with five pairs of band-bearing spines along its upper side; its end is slightly prehensile.

P. 20. D. 37. The dorsal is situated entirely on the tail.

The specimen, being dry, has lost its original colours, which were probably red during life. The iris is crossed by radiating streaks; and several other streaks (of a whitish colour) radiate from the eye over the opercles and the upper part of the head.

There is no doubt that these fish attach themselves with the prehensile end of their tail to stems of seaweed or other objects; and when they are in the vicinity of seaweed of a similar colour, their resemblance to it must be so great that they would easily escape being observed by their enemies.

### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### *The Food of the Aye-Aye.*

*To Dr. J. E. Gray.*

DEAR SIR,—The specimen of sugar-cane I sent for your examination a few days since exhibits in a clear manner the mode of using its incisor teeth by the Aye-Aye. This animal, as you are aware, came here in August 1862, and during the period of nearly three years has been kept in good health and condition, its food being varied from time to time. It was only recently that I obtained some fresh green sugar-cane, and placed two or three sticks of the same in the cage of the Aye-Aye. I soon found the animal was fond of this kind of food; and it is interesting to observe how well its teeth are adapted for obtaining the juice and sugar from each of the joints of the cane. As will be seen, the long points of the incisors cut deeply into the cane, the fibre being pulled forward, and the moisture chewed out. In the observations made by me, and published in the 'Annals' for July 1863, p. 72, I stated that the animal feeds freely on a mixture of *milk, honey, eggs, and any thick glutinous fluid*; and, from what I had observed, I was led to think the creature fed upon the juices of trees; and I am induced to send you this short notice as an additional proof of the correctness of my statements.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

A. D. BARTLETT.

#### *On the Histology of the Acalephæ.* By Prof. KÖLLIKER.

Professor Kölliker has published in the 'Würzburger naturwissenschaftliche Zeitschrift' some observations made by him upon the histology of the Hydrozoa and Ctenophora in the Firth of Clyde.

In these animals he distinguishes three kinds of connective tissue. One forms the tentacles of the Hydroid Polypes and all the solid tentacles of the Medusæ. It presents the appearance of a series of cells (*muscular cells* of Keferstein) occupying the axis of the tentacle. These cells possess no contractility; at least the tentacles of